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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,389	06/04/2001	Hermann Bujard	BBI-009C3CN2	5305
959	7590	01/16/2004	EXAMINER	
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP. 28 STATE STREET BOSTON, MA 02109			SHUKLA, RAM R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1632	
DATE MAILED: 01/16/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/874,389

Applicant(s)

BUJARD ET AL.

Examiner

Ram R. Shukla

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicants' response filed 11-4-2003 has been received.
2. Applicant's election without traverse of the invention of group I, claims 21-36 drawn to non-human transgenic animals in Paper filed 11-4-2003 is acknowledged.
3. Claims 21-36 are objected to because they recite non-elected subject matter. Applicants are required to amend the claims to recite the term "animal" in the place of "organism".
4. Claims 21-36 drawn to a transgenic non-human animal are under consideration.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. Claims 21-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a transgenic mouse, does not reasonably provide enablement for any non-human animal. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

While determining whether a specification is enabling, one considers whether the claimed invention provides sufficient guidance to make and use the claimed invention, if not, whether an artisan would have required undue experimentation to make and use the claimed invention and whether working examples have been provided. When determining whether a specification meets the enablement requirements, some of the factors that need to be analyzed are: the breadth of the claims, the nature of the invention, the state of the prior art, the level of one of ordinary skill, the level of predictability in the art, the amount of direction provided

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by the inventor, the existence of working examples, and whether the quantity of any necessary experimentation to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure is "undue" (In re Wands, 858 F.2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988)). Furthermore, USPTO does not have laboratory facilities to test if an invention will function as claimed when working examples are not disclosed in the specification, therefore, enablement issues are raised and discussed based on the state of knowledge pertinent to an art at the time of the invention, therefore skepticism raised in the enablement rejections are those raised in the art by artisans of expertise.

Claimed invention is directed to any transgenic non-human animal comprising the recited constructs. Claim 36 limits the animals to a mouse, a cow a sheep or a pig. However, making and using of any transgenic non-human animal is not enabled because the art of making transgenic animals is unpredictable and the specification as filed does not provide any guidance to address the unpredictability issues and an artisan of skill would have require extensive experimentation to make the transgenic non-human animals and such experimentation would have been undue because the art of transgenesis is unpredictable.

As the current state of the transgenic animal research stands, there are several significant limitations to the application of same methodology of making transgenic animals to different species. Longer gestation times, reduced litter sizes, number of fertilized eggs required for micro injection and relatively low efficiency of gene integration and method of introduction of transgenes are a few examples of such limitations. Investigators observed 5-70 fold lower yields of a recombinant protein in transgenic mice when they used a construct designed for expression in sheep (see lines 1-12 in 4th para of col 1 on page 632 in Mullins et al. (Mullins JJ et al. Hypertension 22:630-633,1993)). The variation in expression levels between different cell lines and species may be attributed to host genetic background, the site of chromosomal insertion and absence of specific transcription factors.

In a more recent assessment of the transgenic technology, Cameron (Cameron ER. Molecular Biotechnology 7:253-265, 1997) noted, "Well regulated

transgene expression is the key to successful transgenic work, but all too often experiments are blighted by poor levels or the complete absence of expression, as well as less common problems, such as leaky expression in nontargeted tissues. A feature common to many transgenic experiments is the unpredictable transgenic lines produced with the same construct frequently displaying different levels of expression. Further, expression levels do not correlate with the number of transgene copies integrated. Such copy- number-independent expression patterns emphasize the influence of surrounding chromatin on the transgene" (see page 256, section 4 on transgene regulation and expression).

For example, Hammer et al (Hammer RE et al. Cell 63:1099-1112.1990) created both transgenic mice and rats expressing human HLA-b27 gene and beta-2 microglobulin. Although, both the transgenic animals bearing HLA-27 gene expressed the gene, transgenic mice did not show any HLA-2 associated disease whereas the transgenic rats demonstrated most of the HLA-B27 related diseases (see lines 20-28 in col 2 of page 1099). This shows that the integration of a transgene into alternative species may result in widely different phenotypic responses even in animals of the same species. Additionally, promoters and enhancer elements may not function in all the species because they may require specific cellular factors. The specification does not provide any guidance as to whether a given promoter used for expressing an exogenous gene in one animal would have been functional in other animals and even if the promoter may have been active, whether the level of the transgenic product produced would have been sufficient to produce a certain phenotype. If not, what steps would have been taken to address this issue?

Introduction of foreign DNA into fertilized oocyte, for example by micro injection, may result in random integration of the exogenous DNA into host chromosomal DNA which in turn may have major consequences on the expression of the transgene, therefore the production of transgene in all the non-human mammals species will be highly variable and unpredictable. Even if the transgenic animals are produced, it is highly unpredictable whether transgenic animals from species other than mouse (in the present case) will express the transgene to a level

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high enough so as to enable the development of the claimed phenotype in the transgenic animals.

The production of transgenic farm animals and livestock species is further complicated. Seidel (Seidel GE. J. Anim. Sci. 71(Suppl. 3):26-33, 1993) noted "In the case of livestock species.....Characterizing a transgenic line often is a greater logistical undertaking than making the transgenic founder. Ideally, animals should be evaluated for the transgenic trait as well as for absence of undesirable side effects in both sexes in both the hemizygous and homozygous transgenic states. Producing homozygous transgenic animals requires mating relatives, resulting in inbreeding. Characterization of transgenic lines takes many years in species with long generation intervals."

Therefore, the specification fails to provide any guidance as to how an artisan would have dealt with the art recognized limitations of the method for making any and all transgenic animals and therefore, the creation of any and all non-mouse animals would have necessitated undue experimentation on the part of an artisan.

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 21-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Line 12 of claim 21 recites the term "the animal", however, there is lack of antecedent basis for this term since the term was not used in the claim in lines 1-11.

### ***Double Patenting***

9. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re*

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*Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

10. Claims 21, 24-27, 29-36 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-36 of U.S. Patent No. 5,912,411. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims of the instant application are drawn to a transgenic non-human animal, which is broader in scope compared to the transgenic mouse of the cited patent.

It is noted that in the event of the amendment of the pending claims to a transgenic mouse, the rejection will be changed to statutory double patenting rejection.

11. Claims 22, 23 and 28 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-36 of U.S. Patent No. 5,866,755. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims of the instant application are drawn to a transgenic non-human animal, which is broader in scope compared to the transgenic mouse of the cited patent.

It is noted that in the event of the amendment of the pending claims to a transgenic mouse, the rejection will be changed to statutory double patenting rejection.

12. No claim is allowed.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ram R. Shukla whose telephone number is (703) 305-1677. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Reynolds, can be reached on (703) 305-4051. The fax phone number for TC 1600 is (703) 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature, formal matters or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the William Phillips whose telephone number is (703) 305-3413.

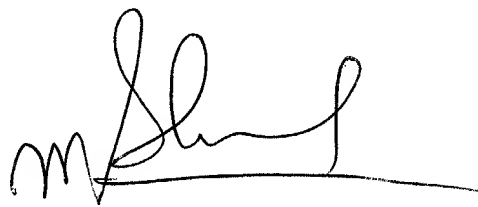
Please note that effective January 13, the offices for Examiner Shukla, SPE Reynolds and LIE William Phillips will move to the new USPTO location in Alexandria, VA and their phone numbers will change. The new phone numbers will be as follows:

Ram Shukla: **(571) 272-0735**

Deborah Reynolds: **(571) 272-0734**

William Phillips: **(571) 272-0548**

Ram R. Shukla, Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1632



RAM R. SHUKLA, PH.D.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER